THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c) The pace of utilisation of World Bank Commitments to India has been under review with the World Bank and was also discussed with the Managing Director of the World Bank during his recent visit to India. It was agreed that steps are necessary to streamline disbursements and to rationalise the portfolio of projects to ensure optimum utilisation of commitments.

Decline in Passengers Travelling by Air India

3903. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India has been gradually losing its share of passengers to foreign airlines;

(b) if so, by what percentage Air India's share of passengers dropped at the end of 1992 as compared to the year 1991;

(c) what are the names of the countries where Air India's share of passengers dropped during 1992;

(d) what is the estimated loss suffered by the airlines as a consequence thereof; and

(e) what are the major reasons identified by Government and what strategy has been formulated to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Plans drawn to improve the operations of Indian Airlines, Air India and Vayudoot

3904. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the plans drawn by Indian Airlines, Air India and Vayudoot to improve their operations during 1991-92 and 1992-93;

(b) what has been the results of these plans in so far as profitability is concerned;

(c) whether Government have identified areas in the operation of Indian Airlines, Air India and Vayudoot where there is a scope for improvement; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD). (a) Increase in productivity, optimum utilisation of fleet modernisation of the fleet, improved punctuality and improvement of the facilities to passengers are the main ingredients of the plans drawn up by the three airlines for improvement of their performance during 1991-92 and 1992-93.

(b) Apart from Air India, who have shown increased profits during 1991-92 (Rs. 145.89 crores) both Indian Airlines and Vayudoot have shown losses of Rs. 198.85 crores and Rs. 30.59 crores respectively. For 1992-93, Air India has projected a profit of Rs. 300 crores whereas Indian Airlines and Vayudoot have projected losses of Rs. 200 crores and Rs. 22 crores respectively.

(c) and (d) During periodic reviews with the airline managements, issues like increase in productivity, better 'on time' performance, better passenger handling, both on ground and in air, fleet modernisation and industrial relations have been identified as areas needing improvement.